

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image ordering system comprising a center server,
a first client computer for an orderer and a second
client computer for a laboratory that are capable of
5 communicating data with one another;

said first client computer including:

an input unit for inputting data that
specifies an image to be printed; and

- a first transmitting unit for transmitting, to
10 said center server, the image specifying data that is
input from said input unit and data specifying the
orderer;

said center server including:

- a first receiving unit for receiving the image
15 specifying data and the orderer specifying data
transmitted from said first transmitting unit of said
first client computer; and

- a second transmitting unit for transmitting
the image specifying data and the orderer specifying
20 data, which has been received by said first receiving
unit, to said second client computer in association with
each other; and

said second client computer including:

- a second receiving unit for receiving the
25 image specifying data and the orderer specifying data
transmitted from said second transmitting unit of said
center server; and

a first alerting unit for giving notice of

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5 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said system
has a plurality of said second client computers;

said center server further including:

a transmit controller for controlling said second transmitting unit so as to transmit the image data and the orderer specifying data to said second client computer that has been determined by said determination unit.

25 said first client computer includes a display
controller for displaying, on a display unit, a
thumbnail image of an image represented by image data
that has been stored in said image database of said

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said first client computer further includes:

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a fifth receiving unit for receiving fee data

[illegible]

5 fifth receiving unit.

6. The system according to claim 5, wherein said first and second client computers each include:

10 center server; and

a third alerting unit for giving notice of a fee represented by the fee data received by said sixth receiving unit;

15 transmitting data representing the fee calculated by
said fee calculation unit to said first client computer
after it transmits this data to said second client
computer.

20 has a plurality of said second client computers;

said fifth transmitting unit transmitting fee data of orderers affiliated with said second client computers.

25 plurality of agencies is provided with a third client
computer for the agency;

laboratories affiliated with the agencies and
orderers affiliated with the laboratories each being

said second client computer of the laboratory
further including:

5 a second verification unit for verifying a fee
represented by fee data transmitted from said fifth
transmitting unit of said center server; and

a seventh transmitting unit for transmitting verification data to said center server in response to verification performed by said second verification unit;

said center server having an eighth receiving unit for receiving verification data transmitted from said second client computer of the laboratory;

said fifth transmitting unit transmitting the fee
15 data to said first client computer of the orderer in
response to reception of the verification data by said
eighth receiving unit.

11. The system according to claim 1, wherein a third client computer for an agency is provided, said third
20 client computer including:

a first setting unit for setting at least one of a laboratory affiliated with an agency and an orderer affiliated with a laboratory; and

an eighth transmitting unit for transmitting
25 attribute data, which has been set by said first setting
unit, to said center server.

12. The system according to claim 1, wherein said client computer for laboratory further includes:

[illegible]

5 setting unit, to said center server.

10 a third setting unit for setting a service, from
among a plurality of services, that can be utilized by
the orderer; and

15 third setting unit, to said center server.

14. A center server comprising:

20 a transmitting unit for transmitting the image
specifying data and the orderer specifying data, which
has been received by said receiving unit, to a client
computer for a laboratory in association with each
other.

25 15. A client computer for a laboratory comprising:

a receiving device for receiving data specifying an image and orderer specifying data transmitted from a center server;

an alerting unit for giving notice of an orderer
5 specified by the received orderer specifying data.

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inputting data that specifies an image to be
printed; and
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the following steps implemented by said center server:

transmitting the received image specifying data and
orderer specifying data to said second client computer
in association with each other; and

receiving the image specifying data and the orderer specifying data transmitted from said center server; and

[illegible]

receiving data specifying an image and data specifying an orderer transmitted from a first client computer of the orderer; and

18. A method of controlling operation of a client computer for a laboratory, comprising the steps of:

controlling a printer so as to print the image
represented by the received image data; and

giving notice of an orderer specified by the
20 received orderer specifying data.